

Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-25

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FEA-02 AGR-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-11

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USIA-15 PRS-01 SP-03 OMB-01 SWF-02 /234 R

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EB/TA:TGEWECKE

EB/OF:PMBOERNER

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S/WF:ECASEY

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CEA:GSEEVERS

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TO USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

AMEMBASSY DUBLIN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

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SUBJECT: POSSIBLE AGRICULTURAL CONSULTATIONS WITH THE EC

COMMISSION

1. DURING JUNE 6-7 US-EC CONSULTATIONS BOTH SIDES AGREED TO CONSULT FURTHER ON INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL ISSUES, INCLUDING MEAT, GRAINS (WITH SPECIAL ATTENTION TO IMPROVED INFORMATION FLOWS ON SUPPLY/DEMAND), FOOD AID AND COORDINATION OF US-EC AGRICULTURAL POSITIONS IN VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL FORUMS. IT WAS NOT DECIDED WHETHER THERE WOULD BE ONE GENERAL CONSULTATION OR WHETHER THE PRESSING MEAT SITUATION WOULD BE CONSIDERED SEPARATELY. IT WAS AGREED THAT, REGARDLESS OF WHETHER SEPARATE CONSIDERATION OCCURRED, MEAT AND POSSIBLY GRAINS SHOULD BE CONSIDERED BEFORE THE END OF JULY.

2. USG WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE MEETING WITH COMMISSION AS FOLLOW-UP TO AGREEMENT TO CONSIDER WHOLE RANGE OF AGRICULTURE ISSUES. MEETING WOULD ALSO PROVIDE TIMELY OPPORTUNITY FOR EC TO EXPLORE VIEWS ON AGRICULTURE WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF NEWLY CREATED PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON FOOD; WHOM WE WOULD EXPECT TO PARTICIPATE IN THESE DISCUSSIONS. PRESIDENT'S COMMITTEE ON FOOD WAS ESTABLISHED BY EXECUTIVE ORDER ON JUNE 19, 1974. THIS COMMITTEE IS TO REVIEW GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES SIGNIFICANTLY AFFECTING FOOD COSTS AND PRICES AND PROVIDE COORDINATION FOR THE NATION'S POLICY RELATING TO DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL FOOD SUPPLIES AND RELATING TO FOOD COSTS AND PRICES. THE COMMITTEE WOULD BE COMPOSED OF THE COUNSELOR TO THE PRESIDENT FOR ECONOMIC POLICY, WHO SHALL BE ITS CHAIRMAN, THE SECRETARY OF STATE, THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY, THE SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE, THE DIRECTOR OF THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, THE CHAIRMAN OF THE COUNCIL OF ECONOMIC ADVISORS, THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE COUNCIL ON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY, AND SUCH OTHER MEMBERS AS THE PRESIDENT MAY, FROM TIME TO TIME, DESIGNATE. THE EXECUTIVE ORDER WILL BE EFFECTIVE AS OF JULY 1, 1974. FYI. IN A MEMORANDUM OF JUNE 21 TO MEMBERS OF THE FOOD COMMITTEE, MR. RUSH STATED THAT A DEPUTY GROUP WOULD ALSO BE ESTABLISHED. AMONG ITS DUTIES WOULD BE "TO REVIEW, ANALYZE AND DECIDE THOSE DOMESTIC AND INTERNATIONAL LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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FOOD POLICY ISSUES WHICH ARE NOT REVIEWED PRIMARILY THROUGH THE NORMAL OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET PROCESS AND WHICH DO NOT REQUIRE THE DIRECT PARTICIPATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE FOOD COMMITTEE. IT IS CRITICAL THAT ISSUES RELATING TO EXPORT AND IMPORT POLICY, FOR EXAMPLE, BE REVIEWED BY THE DEPUTIES GROUP PRIOR TO FINAL DECISIONS WHICH ARE MADE AND ANNOUNCED TO THE PRESS, CONGRESS OR THE PUBLIC. THE FOOD COMMITTEE ITSELF WILL

MEET ONLY WHEN ISSUES CANNOT BE RESOLVED AT THE DEPUTIES
GROUP LEVEL. END FYI.

3. US OFFICIALS ARE AVAILABLE FOR SUCH A MEETING IN THE
LATTER PART OF JULY. ITEMS TO BE DISCUSSED MIGHT INCLUDE:
(A) IMPROVED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION IN HANDLING
MEAT, GRAINS, AND OTHER COMMODITIES; (B) COORDINATION
OF AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICY GLNERALLY (INCLUDING
DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE AND FOOD AID); (C) IMPROVEMENT
IN COORDINATION OF US-EC POSITIONS ON AGRICULTURE IN
VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS; AND (D) WAYS TO
IMPLEMENT HEALTH AND SANITARY REGULATIONS SO AS TO
MINIMIZE OBSTACLES TO TRADE WHEREVER POSSIBLE. WE WOULD
HOPE THAT CONSULTATIONS COULD BE ORGANIZED SO AS TO
AVOID TREATMENT OF INDIVIDUAL ISSUES IN ISOLATION AND TO
PROVIDE MAXIMUM OPPORTUNITY TO EXPLORE THE INTERACTION
AMONG THE VARIOUS ELEMENTS INVOLVED IN DETERMINATION OF
OUR OVERALL AGRICULTURAL POLICIES.

4. MISSION SHOULD SOLICIT COMMISSION VIEWS ON US
PROPOSALS AND REPORT REACTION PROMPTLY. US IS ABLE TO
MEET IN EITHER BRUSSELS OR WASHINGTON. WE NEED TO KNOW
COMMISSION'S PREFERENCE FOR PLACE AND DATE. WE HOPE THAT
COMMISSION COULD BE REPRESENTED AT COMMISSIONER LEVEL AT
THESE CONSULTATIONS. US REPRESENTATIVES WILL BE
DETERMINED BY LEVEL OF EC PARTICIPATION. SISCO

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